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ETH-1615

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of
JOSEPH H. CONTILIANO ET AL.

Group Art Unit: 3732

Serial No. 10/033,543

Confirmation No.: 7364

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: POLYMER-BASED ORTHOPEDIC SCREW
AND DRIVER SYSTEM WITH INCREASED
INSERTION TORQUE TOLERANCE AND
ASSOCIATED METHOD FOR MAKING AND
USING SAME

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicants and their attorney respectfully request that the following patents and publications, copies of which are attached hereto, be made of record in the official United States Patent and Trademark Office file relating to the above-identified application.

U.S. Patent Nos.

4,105,034	5,443,482	5,711,669
4,130,639	5,464,929	5,743,914
4,141,087	5,470,334	5,824,011
4,205,399	5,522,817	5,824,247
4,537,185	5,529,736	5,827,287
4,927,421	5,571,139	5,859,150
4,950,270	5,584,836	5,928,236
5,062,843	5,597,579	5,964,783
5,152,790	5,618,552	5,968,045
5,156,616	5,632,748	6,001,101
5,169,400	5,645,547	6,022,352
5,348,026	5,645,850	6,099,529
5,364,400	5,695,497	6,162,225
5,370,662	5,698,213	

Foreign Patent Publications

European Patent Publication No. 0 390 613
European Patent Publication No. 0 471 334
European Patent Publication No. 0 502 698
European Patent Publication No. 0 913 131
European Patent Publication No. 0 916 312
Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-70126

International Patent Publication No. WO 93/15682
International Patent Publication No. WO 94/07425
International Patent Publication No. WO 95/18577
International Patent Publication No. WO 96/09014
International Patent Publication No. WO 96/25104
International Patent Publication No. WO 97/46167
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International Patent Publication No. WO 00/24324
International Patent Publication No. WO 00/59389

Publications

Allcock, H.R., et al., "Poly(phenylene Ether) to Radical Polymerization",
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John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Volume 13, 1988, pp. 31-41

Cohn, D. et al., "Biodegradable PEO/PLA Block Copolymers",
Journal of Biomedical Materials Research, Volume 22,
John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1988, pp. 993-1009

Cohn, D., "New Tailor-made Biodegradable Polymeric Biomaterials",
Polymer Preprints, Volume 30, The Division of Polymer Chemistry, Inc.,
April 1989, p. 498

Feagin, Jr., J.A. (ed.), "Diagnosis and Treatment of Ligamentous Injuries
About the Knee", The Crucial Ligaments, Churchill Livingstone, Inc.,
New York, 1988, pp. 179-195 and 401-408

Fu, F.H., et al., "Current Trends in Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction,
Part I: Biology and Biomechanics of Reconstruction",
The American Journal of Sports Medicine, Volume 27, No. 6,
American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, 1999, pp. 821-830

Fu, F.H., et al., "Current Trends in Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction,
Part II: Operative Procedures and Clinical Correlations",
The American Journal of Sports Medicine, Volume 28, No. 1,
American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine, 2000, pp. 124-130

Heller, J., "Poly (Ortho Esters)", Handbook of Biodegradable Polymers,
Hardwood Academic Publishers, 1997, pp. 99-118

Kemnitzer, J. and Kohn, J., "Degradable Polymers Derived from The Amino Acid L-Tyrosine", Handbook of Biodegradable Polymers, Harwood Academic Publishers, 1997, pp. 251-272

Rosen, V. and Thies, R.S., The Cellular and Molecular Basis of Bone Formation and Repair, R.G. Landes Company, Texas, 1995, pp. 1-41

Vandorpe, J. et al., "Biodegradable Polyphosphazenes for Biomedical Applications", Handbook of Biodegradable Polymers, Harwood Academic Publishers, 1997, pp. 161-182

Applicants' attorney is not presently in possession of an English-language translation of Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-70126. In the event the Examiner decides that an English-language translation of this document would be helpful, applicants' attorney will provide the United States Patent and Trademark Office with an appropriate English-language translation of same. The remaining references are in the English-language and, therefore, no comments regarding their relevance to the present application are deemed necessary.

In addition, applicants' attorney would like to inform the Examiner of the following two co-pending patent applications which are owned by the assignee of the present application (i.e., Ethicon, Inc.).

U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No. 09/969,779, entitled
"SELF-TAPPING RESORBABLE TWO-PIECE BONE SCREW",
filed September 28, 2001,
Inventors: Kevor S. Tenhuisen, Victor F. Janas,
Kevin L. Cooper, David W. Overaker and J. Jenny Yuan

U.S. Patent Appln. Serial No. 10/032,833, entitled
"CANNULATED SCREW AND ASSOCIATED DRIVER SYSTEM",
filed December 27, 2001,
Inventors: J. Jenny Yuan and Thomas M. Poandl

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98, copies of the aforesaid patent applications are enclosed herewith for the Examiner's convenience.

In order to facilitate the Examiner's citation of the patents and publications listed above, applicants' attorney has completed United States Patent and Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. The completed Form is attached hereto for the Examiner's convenience.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement. If any such fees are due, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 19-1218.

Respectfully Submitted,
SELITTO, BEHR & KIM

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph W. Selitto, Jr.", written over the printed name.

By: Ralph W. Selitto, Jr.
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